

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A connector comprising:

    a header having a header body formed of an insulation material, and a plurality of header posts held on side walls of the header body, the header body having header reinforcing metal fittings which are not electrically connected to a land of a circuit board ~~the header posts~~, and a cross-section of fixed portions of the header reinforcing metal fittings, when viewed in a longitudinal direction of the socket, being substantially the same as a cross-section of a terminal end of the header posts; and

    a socket having a socket body formed of an insulation material and a plug groove configured to engage the header, the socket having a plurality of socket contacts held on side walls of the plug groove, the socket contacts being configured to contact the header posts when the header engages the plug groove, the socket body having a pair of socket reinforcing metal fittings inserted into end portions of the socket body and extending in a width-wise direction of the socket, wherein the socket reinforcing metal fittings reinforce the socket body,

    the pair of the socket reinforcing metal fittings protruding outwardly from side walls of the plug groove in the width-wise direction of the socket, each of the socket

reinforcing metal fittings having a pair of fixed portions configured to be soldered on lands of a circuit board and a coupler which connects the fixed portions, the socket reinforcing metal fittings being embedded in an end portion of the socket body and extending in the width-wise direction of the socket body.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 1, the header post comprising a protrusion and a concavity successively provided on a contact portion of the header post extending in a height-wise direction of the header from a first face configured to contact a bottom surface of the plug groove to a second face opposite to the first face.

4. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 3, wherein the protrusion is positioned in a height-wise direction of the header post closer to the first face than to the second face.

5. (Previously Presented) The connector in accordance with claim 3, the protrusion comprising a slanted face provided on an outer face of the protrusion so that a dimension of the protrusion becomes larger as the slanted face extends towards the second face in a height-wise direction of the header post.

6. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 3, wherein the concavity comprises an elongated channel extending in the heightwise direction of the header post.

7. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 6, wherein the concavity has two slanted faces oriented such that a cross-section of the concavity in the widthwise direction of the header post has a substantially V-shape cross-section.

8. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 3, wherein a dimension of the concavity in the width-wise direction of the header post is formed to be larger than a width dimension of the protrusion and smaller than a width of a contact portion of the socket contact in the width-wise direction of the header post.

9. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 3, wherein dimensions and a position of the concavity in the height-wise direction of the header post are configured to allow the contact portion of the socket contact to slide on the contact portion of the header post.

10. (Currently Amended) The connector in accordance with claim 2, the header reinforcing metal fitting comprising a protrusion and a concavity successively provided on a ~~contact~~ portion of the header reinforcing metal fitting of the header post and in a height-wise direction of the header reinforcing metal fitting, wherein the header

reinforcing metal fitting and extending extends from a side of a face facing the socket toward a side of a face configured to be mounted on a circuit board.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a header of a connector, the method comprising:

    punching metal plates to form conductive terminals at a predetermined pitch, wherein at least some of the conductive terminals are configured to subsequently provide header posts of the header;

    inserting the conductive terminals into a die, wherein a number of pairs of conductive terminals inserted into the die are two greater than a number of pairs of the subsequently provided header posts;

    insertion molding the header with an insulation resin so that two pairs of the conductive terminals positioned at opposing ends of the header are embedded in the insulation resin at the opposing ends of the header body so as to extend in a width-wise direction of the header body; and

    cutting the conductive terminals from the metal plates.

12. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 11, further comprising:

    extracting a plurality of pairs of the conductive terminals formed on the metal plates, the number of the extracted plurality of conductive terminals being at least four greater than a number of pairs of the subsequently provided header posts, and cutting from the metal plates all the conductive terminals except those which subsequently

provide the header posts and the pair of conductive terminals embedded at opposing ends of the header.

13. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 11, wherein the two pairs of the conductive terminals disposed at opposing ends of the header provides the header body with header reinforcing metal fittings, and

a cross-section of fixed portions of the header reinforcing metal fittings, when viewed in a longitudinal direction of the socket, being substantially the same as a cross-section of a terminal end of the header post.

14. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13, wherein the header reinforcing metal fittings comprise concave portions formed at opposing ends of the header body in a side of a face configured to be mounted on a circuit board.